IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Mazda et al. Confirmation No.: 7041

Application No.: 10/521,914 Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: January 20, 2005 Examiner: Jerry L. Cumberledge

For: VERTEBRAL FIXATION SYSTEM Attorney Docket No.: 7672US01

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the application identified above, Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner for Patents to extend the period for response to the Office Communication mailed on July 30, 2007, for two months from October 30, 2007 to December 30, 2007. Please charge Deposit Account No. 01-0025 in the amount of \$460,00 for the associated extension fee. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited, respectively, to the above numbered deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth A. Vrioni (Reg. No. 39,869)

Attorney for Applicant

ABBOTT LABORATORIES

Customer No. 23492 Tel: (847) 938-7576 Fax: (847) 938-2623

NY02:606450.1 -1-

<u>Dicenter 21, 2007</u>